

Proclamation

By the Governor of the State of North Carolina

WHEREAS, Brain injury is a serious, national public health epidemic affecting at least 5.3 million Americans; and

WHEREAS, Every 21 seconds, someone in the United States will sustain a traumatic brain injury (TBI), which equals more than 4,000 people daily; and

WHEREAS, In the State of North Carolina over 5,000 citizens were hospitalized for TBI in 2004 and the average cost per day of hospital care was over \$4,500; and

WHEREAS, Prevention is the only known cure; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the Brain Injury Association of America is to create a better future through brain injury prevention, research, education and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, Working together the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC) the Brain Injury Association of America and the Brain Injury Association of North Carolina strive to increase brain injury awareness, thus making prevention and safety measures part of the American culture in an effort to decrease the number of brain injuries;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2007, as National **BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH in North Carolina** and call upon our citizens and interested groups to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of and prevention of traumatic brain injuries.

MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the capitol in Raleigh this day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.